



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/524,795	05/26/2005	Alta Spamer	000004.P001	8709
52418	7590	04/08/2008	EXAMINER	
HAHN AND MOODLEY, LLP P.O. BOX 52050 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402			BULLOCK, IN SUK C	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER			
			1797	
MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE			
04/08/2008			PAPER	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/524,795	SPAMER ET AL.
	Examiner In Suk Bullock	Art Unit 1797

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If no period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 May 2005.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 26-50 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 26-50 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2/16/05

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: Tables 1-4 and 6-7 are difficult to read. It is requested that applicants submit clear copies of the Tables.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Observations

It is suggested that a consistent introductory phrase be used in claims 27-34, i.e., either recite "A method as claimed . . . or "A method of preparing a metathesis catalyst . . ."

Claim Objections

Claim 29 is objected to because of the following informalities: the claim should depend from claim 28 and NOT 38. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 26-50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over EP 0 424 123 (hereinafter "EP").

The EP reference discloses a method of preparing a metathesis catalyst comprising mixing a tungsten or a molybdenum oxide anion containing aqueous solution with an alumina support at a pH between 4-10, followed by drying and calcination (equivalent to removing water by evaporation) at a temperature range of 300 to 900° C (page 3, lines 5-12). The tungsten solution typically consists of ammonium metatungstate dissolved in water (page 5, lines 14-18). The catalyst is contacted with

olefinic hydrocarbons having C₂ to about C₁₀₀ carbon atoms at a temperature from about 10 to about 350° C, pressure in the range of 50 to about 500 psig, and WHSV in the range of about 0.1 to about 10.0 hr⁻¹ (page 3, lines 25-29; page 6, lines 42-49; and page 7, lines 5-10).

EP fails to disclose silica carrier.

Kukes discloses tungsten oxide-silica is a commercially available catalyst developed specifically for metathesis (col. 3, lines 67-68). The catalyst is best suited for metathesis in the 300 to 500° C temperature range. The reference also discloses that metathesis catalysts include both homogeneous and heterogeneous catalysts with the heterogeneous catalyst appearing to have the greatest utility (col. 3, lines 32-38). Alumina and silica are the best known supports and are preferred because of high catalytic activity, stability, and availability (col. 5, lines 22-26).

As shown by Kukes, silica and alumina are equivalent supports. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have substituted the alumina support in the EP reference for the silica support taught by Kukes. Substitution of equivalents requires no express motivation. In re Fount, 213 USPQ 532 (CCPA 1982); In re Siebentritt, 152 USPQ (CCPA 1967).

With regard to the claimed amount of tungsten, it is within the level of one having ordinary skill in the art to determine optimum amount of tungsten for effective metathesis reaction.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to In Suk Bullock whose telephone number is 571-272-5954. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 6:00-2:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenn Calderola can be reached on 571-272-1444. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/In Suk Bullock/
Examiner, Art Unit 1797